

Senate Resolution 556

By: Senators Hill of the 32nd, Rogers of the 21st and Pearson of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing support for Delta Air Lines' application with the U.S. Department of
2 Transportation to offer customers the first and only nonstop flight between the world's
3 largest airline hub in Atlanta, Georgia, and China's commercial and financial capital of
4 Shanghai; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, there is a bond of friendship between the citizens of Georgia and China, and the
6 people of Georgia welcome opportunities to grow our already deep relationship at all levels,
7 including cultural, academic, and business; and

8 WHEREAS, the 55 million people in the Southeastern United States are dramatically
9 underserved in terms of nonstop and one-stop service to China and Delta stands ready to fill
10 this void by offering the world's first nonstop service from the Southeast via Atlanta by
11 2008; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud that a growing number of Chinese companies such as COSCO
13 North America; Kingwasong LLC; Yat Ming USA, Inc.; Ecotech Machinery, Inc.; and New
14 West International, Inc., have operations in Georgia; and

15 WHEREAS, Delta has been active in the China market since 1987 and continues to expand
16 its opportunities to serve this growing market, opening its third China sales office in
17 Shanghai in September, 2006, complementing existing offices in Beijing and Guangzhou;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, because direct air routes are critical to building global commerce and China is
20 one of the most significant export markets for Georgia and the Southeastern United States,
21 Delta's new flights to Shanghai will fill a critical void in air travel today – the lack of service
22 between the Southeastern United States and China and the lack of U.S. carrier service
23 between the Eastern U.S. and Shanghai – by providing improved access for customers in
24 more than 130 destinations across the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud to be home to the Georgia China Alliance, the Atlanta Chapter
2 of the National Association of Chinese Americans, the Chinese Business Association of
3 Atlanta, the Association of Chinese Professionals, the Hong Kong Association of Atlanta,
4 and the Asian-American Chamber of Commerce; and

5 WHEREAS, Atlanta and all of Georgia would be honored to be selected to serve as the home
6 of the next Consulate General of the People's Republic of China.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
8 hereby strongly urge, on behalf of the citizens of Georgia and our neighbors in the
9 Southeastern United States, the most serious consideration of the application of Delta Air
10 Lines by the U.S. Department of Transportation to offer nonstop flights between Atlanta and
11 Shanghai.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
13 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the members of the United States
14 Congress from Georgia, the Honorable Mary E. Peters, and his Excellency Ambassador
15 Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the United States,
16 Zhou Wenzhong.